

BOARD HOLDS OFF ON STEEL PRICES

Director-General Hines Not
Present at Five Hour
Conference.

AIM AT LOW FIGURE

Profits of Manufacturers Out-
side of U. S. Corporation
Base of Consideration.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, April 5.—The Industrial
Board of the Department of Commerce
and four representatives of the Railroad
Administration considered steel prices
to-day. The conference lasted five hours.
No agreement was reached on the steel
price schedule approved by the board.
Chairman Peck of the Industrial Board
gave out the following statement:

"The Industrial Board of the De-
partment of Commerce held a meet-
ing to-day with Judge R. S. Lovett
and Luther R. Walters, the advisory
committee of the Railroad Adminis-
tration; also with H. B. Spencer,
director of the division of purchase,
and Commissioner McChord of the
Interstate Commerce Commission."

"Mr. Hines was unable to be present
and was represented by his ad-
visory committee, above mentioned.
The committee will report to Mr.
Hines and at a further meeting that
Hines and Mr. Peck will give the
matters discussed further consideration."

Director-General Hines of the Rail-
road Administration and Chairman Peck
will meet early next week. It was
apparent that the members of the In-
dustrial Board were displeased by the
failure of the Director-General to appear
at the conference to-day.

It was intimated that the conference
was given wholly to a discussion of
prices and did not consider questions
of policy. The board presented figures
and statements from the Federal Trade
Commission indicating that but two of
the big steel organizations of the coun-
try could sell at profit at the prices
fixed by the board because of the wage
scale and cost of materials.

The representatives of the Railroad
Administration maintain there is a com-
mon ground on which the administra-
tion can meet with the steel industry
and obtain rails at a price below that of
\$45 and \$47 a ton, the price being fixed
by agreement between the Industrial
Board and the industry.

The Director-General has been de-
clared to hold the opinion that the steel
manufacturers should be willing to ac-
cept a material loss on their products
as a patriotic offset to the profits of the
war period. It is understood that the
railroad representatives to-day gave fig-
ures relating to the alleged profits of
the industry during the last few years.
The data regarding profits are said to
have been obtained by William G. Mc-
Adoo while acting as both Director-
General of Railroads and Secretary
of the Treasury. The figures came to
him, it is said, in his capacity as Sec-
retary of the Treasury.

The Industrial Board has statistics of

the Federal Trade Commission on the
production of steel rails showing that
the average cost in five plants was \$47.10
a ton. This is 10 cents higher than the
maximum price agreed to by the in-
dustry. Board officials said that if the
price was lowered the United States
Steel Corporation virtually was the only
concern that could make a profit on its
contracts.

The Railroad Administration has con-
tracted for several hundred thousand
tons of rails under the old contracts
specifying \$45 and \$40 a ton. Officials
said that railroad maintenance would be
good and that this tonnage would last
several months.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Changes which
have been made in the covenant of the
League of Nations at Paris have been
cabled from Paris to Senator Hitch-
cock (Nebraska), retiring Chairman of
the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
The message was received to-day by the
Senator, but he declined to discuss it
further than to say that he had not
asked the American peace delegates for
the information.

Senator Hitchcock is regarded generally
as the chief spokesman of the adminis-
tration in the controversy which has de-
veloped in this country over the League of
Nations plan and it is understood that
the purpose of sending the communica-
tion was not only to keep the Senator
informed of the progress made in revis-
ing the league constitution, but also
that expected to be made.

The Senator is to participate in a
joint debate with Senator Lenroot (Wis-
consin), Republican, on the League of
Nations in New York Monday night
and it is probable that he will use some
of this information in his address.

The communication to Senator Hitch-
cock was said to be the first relative
to the Peace Conference to be received
by any Senator from the American dele-
gates at Paris.

Owing to other engagements Senator
Hitchcock declined to-day an invitation
received from the Indiana Manufacturers
Association to engage in a joint debate
on the League of Nations with George
Wharton Pepper of Philadelphia in
Indianapolis April 15.

TO ACCOMPANY BAKER ABROAD

Fifteen of House Military Com-
mittee Will Go With Him.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Fifteen mem-
bers of the House Military Committee
will accompany Secretary Baker when
he leaves next Monday from New York
on the Leviathan for France. In mak-
ing this announcement to-day Represen-
tative Dent, retiring chairman, said the
trip would be of an official nature so
far as it could be under the circum-
stances.

Representatives of the General Staff
will accompany the committee to aid
in mapping out a complete and rapid in-
spection tour and the trip is expected
to last five or six weeks. Battlefield
will be inspected and trips taken to
the American camps not only in France
but in England and Italy.

"The committee," said Mr. Dent, "will
inquire into the mail service, the war
registration service, the school system,
both before and after the armistice, and
the action and record of the various
divisions participating in the different
important engagements of the war."

HINES ASSAILS PLAN TO FIX COAL PRICES

Railway Head Sees an Attempt
by Producers to Keep Up
High Cost of Living.

PUBLIC WOULD SUFFER

Competition Needed to Stabili-
ze Conditions for Benefit
of All Consumers.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, April 4.—In a public
statement to-night Director-General
Hines accuses the National
Coal Association of an effort to escape
competition under cover of Government
prices for coal and intimates that the
association is endeavoring to keep up the
high cost of living under which the peo-
ple have struggled.

The statement was issued in answer to
a statement last night from the Coal As-
sociation attacking the railroad coal
purchasing policy and stating that the
association wanted prices mediated by
the Industrial Board of the Department
of Commerce. Director-General Hines
said:

"It is of the highest importance that
every consumer of coal and every per-
son interested in the high cost of living
should understand exactly what is in-
volved in the effort of the National Coal
Association to escape competition and
get its members again under cover of
Government prices for coal. The state-
ment issued last night by the coal as-
sociation makes it perfectly clear that it
is trying to prevent competition, or, as it
euphemistically expresses it, its members
have declined to discuss prices and in-
stead is trying to get some governmental
agency to assume the responsibility for
fixing a uniform price for coal in each
district. Such a uniform price will have
to be high enough to take care of the
greater costs of the high cost producers
and thus produce an excessive profit for
the low cost producers. The Fuel Ad-
ministration removed its prices some
time ago. The question is whether the
public now wants other Government
prices established so as to continue to
keep coal at high price levels, which
will keep up the cost of living and con-
tinues to produce in the aggregate ab-
normal profits to the coal operators."

"Their present proposal is that the
Government fix in each district a uni-
form price (without any opportunity for
competition) at which the Railroad Ad-
ministration and other Government
agencies must purchase. But the effect
of this immediately will be to create a
standard which the coal operators will
try to maintain in selling to everybody
else and the Government will be giving
its support therefore to a price level
which will be unnecessarily high and far
more than is necessary to yield a hand-
some profit for the low cost producers."

"I firmly believe that any such policy
is opposed to the interest of every mem-
ber of the community who is suffering
instead of profiting by the present high
cost of living."

"As far as the Railroad Adminis-
tration is concerned it has adopted a con-
siderate policy to prevent undue con-
centration of the Government's pur-
chasing power to prevent the acceptance

of any bids which will cut the scale of
wages to promote a reasonable distribu-
tion of the administration's coal orders
(but it should be borne in mind that a
large part of its consumption is sup-
plied on business contracts), and I
leave this policy can and will be so
carried out as to enable the Railroad
Administration to make a highly im-
portant contribution to the mining indus-
try without doing the great injustice to
the general public of absolutely stamp-
ing out competition in the coal industry
and substituting high and uniform Gov-
ernment prices.

"In an enterprise involving the opera-
tion of 250,000 miles of railroad and
perhaps 150 different railroad organiza-
tions it is natural that there may be
specific instances where there may be
temporary shortcomings in carrying out
the definite policies of the administration.
Such shortcomings will be promptly cor-
rected as they arise and will become less
frequent as the policy is more clearly
understood. But the mere fact that they
may arise is no reason why the Ameri-
can public should continue to be deprived
of the opportunity for all competition in
the coal business. The coal industry has
been unwilling to comply with the sug-
gestion which has come from the Na-
tional Association that the Rail-
road Administration withdraw requests
for bids and instead undertake to buy
its coal at uniform prices for the various
districts fixed by some Government
agency."

PRICE OF CABBAGE IS SOARING.

Retail Figure Now as High as Its
All: Canned Beef.

There is a great scarcity, almost a
famine, of cabbage just now, and the
price of the old side partner of corned
beef has soared to heights heretofore
unknown for peace times.

Danish cabbage, quoted at \$35 to \$50
a ton wholesale two weeks ago, had ad-
vanced yesterday to \$125 to \$150. Old
white cabbage, worth \$1.50 to \$2.50 a
barrel on March 22, brought \$6 to \$7.50.
New Florida cabbage, which was quoted
at \$5.50 to \$6.50 a crate two weeks ago,
sold yesterday at from \$6 to \$7.50 a
crate.

The less aristocratic corned beef,
according to the daily market quotations
of Dr. Day, Commissioner of Public
Markets, retailed yesterday at 15 cents
a pound. With cabbage wholesaling at
7 1/2 cents a pound the retail price will
be as high as at least as that of corned
beef.

Gov. Smith Reviews 12th.

Gov. Alfred E. Smith last night re-
viewed the Twelfth Regiment, N. Y. G.,
at the armory, Sixty-first street and Op-
lumbus avenue. The regiment, under
command of Col. Nelson B. Burr, was
lined up on the drill floor of the armory
and the Governor, as Commander in
Chief of the State militia, passed up and
down the line inspecting the various
companies.

U-BOATS WILL TOUR ON RIVERS AND LAKES

Surrendered Vessels to Visit
St. Louis and Chicago.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—Surrendered
German submarines now being brought
to the United States by American naval
crews will be exhibited at ports on the
Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts, the
Great Lakes and Chesapeake Bay and
on the Mississippi and Hudson rivers.
The five submarines will arrive at New
York late this month, while the Victory
Loan campaign is in progress.

The Navy Department announced to-
day that after the first reached New
York motion pictures would be made for
display over the country and that the
submarines then would proceed on the
following itineraries:

U-111, a submarine of the larger type,
to Portland, Portsmouth, Boston,
New Bedford, Newport, Providence, New
Haven and then lay up at New London.
U-117, a big ocean mine layer, which
planted mines on the Atlantic coast dur-
ing the war, will go to Philadelphia,
Wilmington, Del.; Wilmington, N. C.,
Norfolk, Baltimore, Annapolis, Charles-
ton, S. C., and then lay up at Wash-
ington, D. C.

U-18, a small type submarine, will
proceed to Savannah, Jacksonville, Tam-
pa, Pensacola, Mobile and New
Orleans; thence up the Mississippi River
to St. Louis, then to Galveston, Key
West, through the Panama Canal, up
the Puget Sound district, and then lay
up at San Pedro.

U-18, a small type submarine, will
be exhibited at various places in and
about New York; then up the Hudson
River as far as draught will safely per-
mit; thence to Bridgeport, and lay up at
New London.

U-87, a small mine layer, will pro-
ceed from New York to Halifax, up the
St. Lawrence River for exhibition at
Great Lakes ports and finally lay up at
the naval training station, Great Lakes.
After the submarines have been ex-
hibited they will be carefully studied by
construction and engineering experts of
the navy.

GOVERNOR'S WIFE IS SPONSOR.

Mrs. Smith Christens East Side at
Launching.

Mrs. Alfred E. Smith, wife of the Gov-
ernor, christened the vessel "East Side"
when the ship was launched at noon yes-
terday at the Shoppers Island yards of
the Standard Shipbuilding Corporation.
The crowd sang "The Sidewalks of New
York" after the 7,500-ton ship left the
ways.

Mayor Hylan was expected. He did
not appear, but when Matthew Cahill,
Democratic leader of Richmond, came
forward he got three cheers from the
7,000 workmen who mistook him for the
Mayor. They look alike.

REMARK BY JUDGE REVERSES A TRIAL

Dike Criticized by Appellate
Division for His Comment.

County Judge Dike of Brooklyn was
criticized yesterday by the Appellate
Division in Brooklyn in the case of
Philip Frasco, found guilty in May of
last year of a criminal assault.

A witness corroborating an alibi that
Frasco had set up was not considered
credible by Judge Dike, who stated from
the bench that he believed his testimony
to be perjury and ordered his arrest,
adding:

"The defendant will be convicted on
his testimony alone if on nothing else."
The Appellate Division held yesterday
that the statement may have found
prejudicial lodgment in the mind of the
jury and that Frasco must be re-
tried. The opinion, written by Justice
Miles, says:

"It is very regrettable that we are
forced to this conclusion, because it is
very likely that the defendant was
guilty of the assault, which was ex-
tremely base and atrocious, and it is
very likely that the jury would have be-
lieved the testimony against him with-
out any such exhibition on the part
of the trial court."

"Still, it is the Constitutional right
of the defendant, however base we may
think him to be, to have a fair trial, and
it would be a dangerous precedent if the
action of this trial judge should stand
approved by this court."

NAVY TO PUT END TO AIR SECRECY

Publicity Methods Will Be
Entrusted to N. Y. End.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.
WASHINGTON, April 5.—Acting Sec-
retary of the Navy Roosevelt has decided
to put an end to some of the secretive-
ness now prevailing in regard to the
coming transatlantic flight and will take
control of this matter out of the hands
of young officers in Washington and
place it under the naval district in New
York.

Lieut. Harold W. Scofield, U. S. N.,
serving as aid to the Commandant at
New York, probably will be selected as
liaison officer between the public and the
naval air service. Commander Stanley
D. Parker, commanding the air station
at Rockaway, will be permitted to use
his discretion in dealing with routine
matters connected with publicity.

It is probable that representatives of
the press and photographers, as well as
motion picture operators, will be per-
mitted to be present at one of the trial
flights of the big seaplane N-C-2, one of
the airplanes which may be selected for
the flight.

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**MOTT HAVEN RED, 60,
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Expecting to Die in Prison,
Hopes to See Grass Again.

Mott Haven Red, alias Joseph Fay,
expects to die in prison. He is past 60
and while his latest trial was pending
he had to be taken to a city hospital for
care. He is said to be tubercular.

"I'll never see the green grass any
more," he said yesterday when he was
sentenced in Bronx County Court. "I
am dying on my feet."

Judge Louis D. Gibbs offered him the
alternative of serving a year and two
months in Blackwell's Island or Sing
Sing, and he chose Sing Sing. He hopes
to be transferred from there to Danne-
mora, where he may be allowed to
work outside the prison and benefit by
the healthfulness of up-State climate.

"Old age, chained and desolate, no
matter what his previous infamy may
have been, always appeals to the hu-
mane instinct," said Willoughby B.
Dobbs, Assistant District Attorney, in
approving Mott Haven Red's choice of
prison.

The man was arrested January 15 in
the back room of a saloon in the Mott
Haven section of The Bronx on sus-
picion and was found to have a revolver.
Detectives Frederick Buddenmyer and
Thomas J. Sullivan were looking for
a porch climber that night and Mott
Haven Red is a veteran at that game.

"You are bounding me," Mott Haven
said.

Red told them, but he offered no re-
sistance to arrest.

His record of bank and post office
robberies was recited to the jury. He
was six weeks in Bellevue before re-
gaining sufficient health to be sentenced.

CALDER SEES A SUFF VICTORY IN CONGRESS

Believes Amendment Will
Have Good Majorities.

Senator Calder predicted the speedy
passage of the women's suffrage amend-
ment when speaking last night at the
dinner of the New York Women's En-
franchise Party in the Hotel Majestic. He
expressed the opinion that Congress
would be convened about May 15, and
that the amendment would be reported
out of committee in the House within
the first few days of the session and
would pass by at least thirty votes over
the required two-thirds majority.

In the Senate, he said, the measure
would pass within thirty days of its re-
ceipt from the House.

About 600 women from the Seventh,
Ninth, Eleventh and Thirteenth Assem-
bly Districts attended the dinner. Mrs.
Charles L. Tiffany presided and the
speakers, besides Senator Calder, in-
cluded Miss Mary Garrett Hay, Represen-
tative Herbert C. Pell, State Senator
Abraham Kaplan, Assemblywoman Mary
Lilly, Abraham Wise and Assemblyman
Philip Waller.

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